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SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5924

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl, Wood, Bauer, A. Anderson, Sheldon, Prince, Drew, Quigley, McAuliffe, Fairley and West)

Read first time 02/28/95.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to increased tuition fees for excess credits taken
- 2 at institutions of higher education; and adding new sections to chapter
- 3 28B.15 RCW.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW 6 to read as follows:
- 7 (1) For resident undergraduate students who have accumulated more
- 8 than one hundred fifteen percent of the number of credits required to
- 9 complete their respective baccalaureate degree programs at a state
- 10 university, regional university, or The Evergreen State College,
- 11 tuition fees shall equal one hundred fifty percent of the standard
- 12 resident undergraduate tuition rate at each respective institution as
- 13 prescribed in this chapter.
- 14 (2) For nonresident undergraduate students who have accumulated
- 15 more than one hundred fifteen percent of the number of credits required
- 16 to complete their respective baccalaureate degree programs at a state
- 17 university, regional university, or The Evergreen State College,
- 18 tuition fees shall equal one hundred fifty percent of the standard

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- 1 nonresident undergraduate tuition rate at each respective institution
 2 as prescribed in this chapter.
- 3 (3) The following exceptions apply to subsections (1) and (2) of 4 this section:
- 5 (a) Credits earned at private institutions of higher education in 6 the state of Washington, at public or private institutions of higher 7 education in other states, or through advanced placement programs shall 8 not be applied to the total accumulated for the purposes of this 9 section;
- 10 (b) For community college transfer students, credits earned at a 11 community college that are in excess of the credits necessary to 12 complete an associate degree shall not be applied to the total 13 accumulated for the purposes of this section;
- 14 (c) This section shall not apply to any dislocated worker as 15 defined by RCW 50.04.075 or to any person engaging in a job training 16 program under the purview of the work force training and education 17 coordinating board;
- 18 (d) This section shall not apply to students who are enrolled in institutionally established double-degree programs;
- (e) This section shall not apply to certificated teachers of the K-21 12 school system who are pursuing continuing education credits 22 according to certification requirements;
- 23 (f) Any credits earned before the 1991-92 academic year shall not 24 be applied to the total accumulated for the purposes of this section.
- 25 (4) The total amount of tuition fees collected from each student 26 according to subsections (1) and (2) of this section that is in excess 27 of one hundred percent of the respective tuition fees in RCW 28B.15.202 28 and 28B.15.402 or successor tuition statutes shall be used for quality 29 enhancements that are of direct benefit to students. These quality 30 enhancements may include:
- 31 (a) Increased number of offerings per term of class sections of 32 required general education courses;
- 33 (b) Increased financial aid dollars available to qualified 34 students;
 - (c) Increased undergraduate enrollment; and
- 36 (d) Additional opportunities for students seeking a specific 37 vocational degree.
- 38 (5) Quality enhancements do not include dollars for faculty 39 salaries.

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- (6) Students who believe they are under extraordinary or unforeseen 1 academic or personal circumstances or were unable to complete their 2 3 baccalaureate degree program within the number of credits specified due 4 to institutional constraints may petition the institution for a special waiver from the tuition provision of subsections (1) and (2) of this 5 section. The governing board of each institution shall create a 6 process through which student petitions may be fairly processed, heard, 8 and determined.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW 10 to read as follows:
- 11 The general fund--state appropriation may not be reduced by the 12 amount of operating fees revenue collected as a result of section 1 of 13 this act.

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